

A NEW SPECIES OF *VIGUIERA* (ASTERACEAE, HELIANTHEAE) FROM
NAYARIT, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

A new species, *Viguiera huajicoria* B. Turner from Nayarit, México is described. It is closely related to *V. latibracteata* and *V. grahamii*, but differs from both in having much smaller heads with fewer ray florets. A map showing the distribution of these three species is provided.

KEY WORDS: *Viguiera*, Asteraceae, Heliantheae, México

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following novelty.

Viguiera huajicoria B. Turner, *sp. nov.* TYPE: MEXICO. Nayarit: Mpio. de Huajicori, "2 km del Rancho de los Sauces," 5 Nov 1985, *I. Solis 556* (HOLOTYPE: TEX; Isotypes: CIIDIR).

Viguerae grahamii McVaugh similis sed foliis sparsim strigosis angustioribusque (2-5 mm latis vs. 8-30 mm), capitulis minoribus, et floribus radii paucioribus (5-8 vs. 11-21).

Much branched shrublet. Stems reddish-brown, sparsely strigose. Leaves alternate, linear-lanceolate, mostly 3-8 cm long, 2-5 mm wide; petioles 1-2 mm long; blades sparsely strigose above and below, more so above, the lower surfaces with a single principal nerve; the margins subentire. Heads numerous on ultimate, sparsely strigose peduncles 1-4 cm long. Involucres campanulate, 6-8 mm wide, 5-6 mm high; the bracts triseriate, subequal, with apices often reflexed, the outer bracts narrowly lanceolate, the middle and inner bracts ovate to elliptic obovate, minutely strigose. Receptacle convex, the pales 3-4 mm long, acute apically. Ray florets 5-8, neuter, sterile, the ligules yellow, 5-8 mm long, 3-4 mm wide, 6-8 nervate, the orifice of the tube with a tuft



Fig. 1. Distribution of *Viguiera grahamii* (open circle), *V. huaiicoria* (open triangle) and *V. latibracteata* (closed circle).

of hairs. Disk florets mostly 30-50 per head; the corollas yellow, ca. 3 mm long, pubescent, the tube ca. 0.75 mm long, the throat ca. 1.5 mm long, the lobes deltoid, ca. 0.75 mm long. Anthers ca. 1.8 mm long. Achenes obovate, glabrous, ca. 2 mm long, epappose.

When first examined, I thought the above plant might be undescribed, but opted to think of it as a small headed collection of *Viguiera grahamii* McVaugh. The plant actually combines characters of the latter with characters of the closely related *V. latibracteata* (Hemsl.) S.F. Blake. It possesses the general habit and pubescence of the latter, but the leaf texture and venation of *V. grahamii*. It differs from both in having relatively smaller heads with fewer ray florets (mostly 5-8 vs. 11-21). The distributional relationships of these several species is shown in Fig. 1, based largely upon specimens at TEX.

In details of the disk florets, *Viguiera huajicoria* is remarkably similar to *V. latibracteata* and *V. grahamii*, and there can be little question but that these several taxa are closely related.

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